

March 24, 2003

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Availability of State/Tribal Multi-Media Assistance Agreement Funds for Environmental Enforcement Training and for Supporting Improved Linkages Between EPA and State/Tribal Systems

FROM: Michael M. Stahl, Director /S/
Office of Compliance

TO: Regional Administrators, Regions 1 - 10
Deputy Regional Administrators, Regions 1 - 10
Regional Enforcement Division Directors, Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8
Regional Media Division Directors, Regions 3, 5, 7, 9, and 10
Regional Enforcement Coordinators, Regions 1 - 10

The purpose of this memorandum is to let you know that the Office of Compliance (OC) is making funds (approximately \$1.5 M) available for multi-media assistance agreements with states and tribes. The proposals can be in the range of \$50,000 - \$200,000 and should be in either of two focus areas. I am asking for your assistance in working with your states and tribes to develop pre-proposals which can be submitted to Headquarters by **May 5, 2003**. The Notice of Availability is attached and will be available at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/planning/state/grants.html> during the week of March 24, 2003.

As you may know, we are also funding the Integrated Strategies Project for \$150,000, contact is Seth Heminway (202) 564-7017; and the Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic (PBT) Initiative, also for \$150,000, contact is Sally Sasnett (202) 564-7074. In addition, OC is planning to begin a new initiative in FY 03 - the Statistically Valid Non-Compliance Rate (SVNCR) Lead 1018 Project in St Louis for \$75,000, contact is Lynn Vendinello (202) 564-7066.

Focus Areas

As explained in the attached Notice, the assistance agreements will be funded only for projects in the following focus areas: 1) environmental enforcement training; and 2) supporting improved linkages between EPA and State/Tribal systems. Please see the attached Notice of Availability for more details.

Process

States and tribes are requested to send electronic pre-proposals that do not exceed 5 pages, simultaneously to their Regional Enforcement Coordinator or Division Director and to David Piantanida, of my staff, by May 5, 2003. Regions will then have until May 23 to provide a ranking of their top 5 or top 25% in each of the funding areas. A panel of reviewers made up of headquarters and regional experts from each of the focus areas will review only those top pre-proposals.

Funding decisions will be made by late June based on pre-proposals, and regions are asked to provide regional grant application materials to the selected recipients by July 25. Final proposals are due to regions and headquarters by September 15, 2003.

The projects will be administered by regional offices, although if a region feels a particular project is more appropriately administered by headquarters, I am willing to discuss such an arrangement. Each region should identify a project officer for each project selected for funding. Project officers should be competent in the focus area of the project they will manage.

Schedule

Week of March 24	Federal Register Notice is Published
May 5	Electronic Pre-Proposals due simultaneously to Regional Enforcement Coordinator or Division Director, and David Piantanida, OECA.
May 23	Regional rankings due to David Piantanida, OECA.
Late June	OECA notifies regions and states/tribes of selected recipients.
Late July	Regions provide final application kit for assistance to selected recipients. Regions notify David Piantanida, OECA, and selected recipients of the name and contact information of regional project officer and regional grants contact.
September 15	Final proposals due to regional project officers and regional grants contact, and David Piantanida, OECA.

If you have any questions about this process, please call David Piantanida, of my staff, at (202) 564-8318.

Attachment

cc: Mimi Guernica
Phyllis Harris
Anne Lassiter
Lisa Lund
Mary Kay Lynch
David Nielsen
David Piantanida
Steven J. Shimberg
Walker Smith
Frederick Stiehl
J.P. Suarez
David Swack
Robert Tolpa
Compliance Assistance Coordinators, Regions 1 - 10
Regional Counsels, Regions 1 - 10